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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Greece

DATE: 25X1X

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Party Reactions to New Government

DIST. 8 October 1947

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the [REDACTED] of the United States.

ORIGIN

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Liberal circles are reluctant to accept the good faith of the Populists because they feel that the latter will oppose any efforts on their part toward appeasement and reconciliation.
2. Populist circles are, on the other hand, making every effort to hinder the success of the Sophoulis program because, among other things, they realize that Sophoulis' success will mean their downfall as an effective political force. All their hopes lie in the "political genius" of Tsaldaris who "hoodwinked the Americans as well as the old man (Sophoulis)". They are also confident of the continued support of the Nomarchs and Gendarmerie.
3. In Zervas' circles one hears, "Let Sophoulis say what he likes. If the Americans weren't here, we'd tell him a thing or two. In any event the Gendarmerie belongs to us and will therefore look to us for orders. If they wish, let the 'Katsapliades' come down from the hills, and you'll see appeasement."
4. The following statement of Charalambo or Babi Maniadaki is typical of those heard in the circle of Mavromichalis: "Since the Nomarchs and Demarchs are ours, Mavromichalis will hold on to them, come what may. We won't allow those butchers to come down and stage another December affair, and we won't allow the Gendarmes to knuckle under to EAMites and Bulgars, no matter what clauses Sophoulis writes against those not keeping the amnesty."
5. From George Economou, an Athenian lawyer and Secretary of SKE who recently was released from exile on Icaria: "The Communists don't want appeasement and will try in every way to prevent it, unless they receive instructions from Moscow to the contrary. There are indications that Russia will abandon Greece and Turkey and concentrate on demands from Germany. But the manner in which the amnesty is carried out will give the Communists arguments for persuading the Andartes not to believe that anyone surrendering his arms and returning to his village will be safe. I saw the Americans and told them this, but, as far as I could ascertain, the Americans were not interested in the pacification of Greece, but rather in the establishment of an anti-communist state."

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